

REMARKS

The Examiner presently rejects selected claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2, as failing to support the limitation "all in the same shaft" set forth in claims 58, 61, 62 and 65.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application fully supports this claim element. For example, on page 1, line 15, Applicants discuss that a mechanical turbine can typically be connected in-line or along the same axis or shaft. This is typically referred to as an in-line configuration. With regard to the presently described and claimed invention, Applicants set forth on page 6, corresponding to the descriptions of Figures 1 and 2, that the power system of Figure 1 employs an electrochemical converter "serially in-line" with a gas turbine, and hence is disposed along the same shaft. Further, Applicants describe in connection with the description of Figure 2 on page 6, that the power system can also employ, in an alternate embodiment, an electrochemical converter out of line (e.g., off-line) with a gas turbine. Further support can be found on page 7, line 10, where Applicants describe in connection with the hybrid power system of Figure 1 that the illustrated in-line, aero-derivative gas turbine power system employs an electrochemical converter 72 along the same shaft as a gas turbine assembly. Further support can be found in originally filed claim 21, which recites placing the electrochemical converter serially in-line (e.g., along the same shaft) between the compressor and the turbine. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing disclosure, and especially the power system of Figure 1, fully supports claims 58, 61, 62 and 65, which disclose providing selected system components along the same shaft.

Applicants further enclose herewith a Terminal Disclaimer terminally disclaiming any portion of the patent term of the present application which would extend beyond U.S. Patent No. 5,976,322. The enclosed, executed Terminal Disclaimer renders moot the Examiner's rejection set forth on page 3 of the Office Action.


We accordingly deem that the foregoing amendments attend to all outstanding objections to the present case.

Applicants further respectfully submit that they may wish to invoke an interference between any patent granted on this case and U.S. Patent No. 5,811,201 of Skowronski. The Examiner if appropriate may wish to invoke an interference with the '201 Skowronski patent at his end once the foregoing issues to the presently pending claims are addressed.

If any remaining issues persist, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' representative at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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